

connected to a series of wires that are embedded in the arm from the shoulder almost to the wrist. The wires are attached to seven electrodes that are sewn into paralyzed forearm muscles that control the hand.

The stimulator is attached outside the body to a computerized radio transmitter control unit that the patient attaches to the back of a wheelchair. The control unit also is attached by wire to another device taped to the chest and shoulder.

By moving the shoulder up and down or backward and forward, the patient signals the control unit to send electrical impulses through the stimulator and down into the arm muscles to activate finger and hand movement.

After the surgery, patients are hospitalized for three to four weeks. Then slowly they begin months of physical therapy, learning "grasp patterns" and "integrating them into their daily routine," said Linda M. Marshall, chief of occupational therapy at the VA medical center.

The Baltimore program is funded by a \$170,000 grant from the Department of Veterans Affairs and involved no cost to the three patients.

Similarly, programs in the other five cities are funded by the department, the National Institute of Disability and Rehabilitation Research and NeuroControl Corp., of Cleveland, maker of the stimulator device.

The three Baltimore patients, sitting side by side in wheelchairs eagerly displayed their newly recovered skills.

Semon, 30, a Department of Agriculture budget analyst who lives in Chantilly, leaned forward, picked up a fork and pierced a pink ball of Play-Doh on a plate.

"Yum," she said, pretending to take a bite. Heiden, a computer software engineer, typed a quick message on a computer keyboard with one finger. That may not seem much, she said, but before the implant surgery, she could only jab at the keyboard with a broken pencil wedged in a splint on her arm.

"My typing speed has increased tremendously," she said.

"I can load and unload paper for my printer, too."

PROTECTING OUR NATION'S FLAG

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 22, 1995

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, because of my longstanding support to affirm the right of State legislatures and the U.S. Congress to protect the American flag, I am proud to once again be an original introducer today of a constitutional amendment declaring that Congress and the States shall have the power to prohibit the act of physical desecration of the American flag.

This is not the first time the House will consider this resolution. As my colleagues may recall, on June 21, 1990, the House fell just 34 votes short of the two-thirds vote required to approve this constitutional amendment. Since that time, 44 States have passed resolutions calling on Congress to give them the opportunity to ratify an amendment to the Constitution protecting the flag—6 more than the 38 States needed for ratification.

Mr. Speaker, it is only fitting that on the 50th anniversary of the historic flag-raising atop Iwo Jima's Mount Suribachi, that we reintroduce this amendment to protect our flag from dese-

cration. On this occasion we remember the 75,000 marines who fought for 36 days in one of the most grueling battles of World War II, a time when "uncommon valor was a common virtue." We honor the nearly 7,000 men who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country during the fight for the island, and the countless others wounded in this campaign.

In memory of those who fought that battle, we have erected the U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington, VA, where the moving re-creation of that famous flag-raising stands with the glorious Stars and Stripes atop the flagpole. It stands as a memorial not only to the Americans who served so bravely in that battle, but for all Americans who marched in battle behind the Stars and Stripes to restore freedom and protect the ideals which our great flag symbolizes.

Few things dishonor their memory more than acts of desecration of the American flag.

Our flag waves across the United States as a symbol of freedom and democracy and as a constant reminder of those who paid the ultimate price in service to their country. Casting contempt on the flag is the same, in my view, as casting contempt upon our Constitution and all the values of our great Nation for which it stands—liberty, equality, and justice for all. On battlefields throughout our Nation's history many lives have been lost and much pain and suffering endured by those committed to the defense of these values. To desecrate the flag is to cast contempt upon these brave men and women who carried our flag into battle with them; soldiers who have fought so bravely and offered their lives to protect the freedoms which we enjoy today and the promise of a free future for our children.

The United States stands as an example of freedom and justice for all to follow. The American flag remains a symbol throughout the world of that freedom and justice. It has inspired ordinary Americans to make extraordinary sacrifice, and should be respected and protected always. I urge my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring and supporting this amendment.

A TRIBUTE TO 13 GOOD SAMARITANS

HON. HERBERT H. BATEMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 22, 1995

Mr. BATEMAN. Mr. Speaker, please let the record show that I submit these remarks jointly with my colleague, the Hon. ROBERT C. SCOTT of Virginia.

Too often we fail to recognize the good things today's youth do. We are always quick to criticize them, but unfortunately are often slow to offer praise when it is deserved. We want to change that today.

Thirteen children from Newport News deserve special recognition for an extraordinarily good deed. While playing a game of chase on a recent Sunday afternoon, the youngsters witnessed the mugging of a 75-year-old woman. As the mugger sprinted away from the scene of the crime, the children, some as young as 5, gave chase to the suspect. They followed the suspect for two blocks, eventually leading police to the spot where he was hiding. The kids also showed police a nearby

truck where the suspect had thrown the woman's purse.

These 13 kids are a shining example of the good things that are happening in our communities. Unfortunately, we have the tendency to only focus on the negative. The children could have easily ignored Edna Moss' cries for help and continued playing. Instead, they chose not to let the crime go unnoticed. Mrs. Moss is probably correct in her belief that the police may not have been able to catch the thief if it were not for the actions of the kids.

We want to take this opportunity to enter each of the 13 youngsters names in the RECORD. They are Calvin Williams, age 12; Maurice Williams, 11; Jamar Williams, 7; Shawn Stephenson, 8; Phillip Gayles, 12; Delvin Johnson, 13; August Taylor, 12; Antonio Bell, 5; Shenell Pressley; Demarcus Gardner, 9; Michael Carter, 6; Tierra Davies, 5; and Akeem Tate, 8.

We are pleased that so many people in the community, from local business owners to the Newport News City Council, have recognized the deeds of these 13 good Samaritans. ABC's "Prime Time Live" also has done a feature on the children that was broadcast nationwide. They truly deserve the recognition.

JULIAN AND ELISE WAGER HONORED FOR ENTIRE FAMILY'S COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 22, 1995

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of my colleagues two of my constituents who exemplify what it means to be concerned, community activists—Julian and Elise Wager.

Mr. Speaker, contrary to some people's belief, great neighborhoods don't just happen. They are created through the hard work of hundreds and thousands of community members joining together in common cause.

Astoria, Queens, is just such a neighborhood, and Julian and Elise Wager are two of the most dedicated, most caring members of the community. My field Julie, as he is known to his legion of friends, is currently the extremely capable chief of staff at the Western Queens Gazette—without a doubt one of New York's finest newspapers.

But Julie's contributions to the community don't end at the workplace. Julie has also been president of the Steinway Street Merchants Association since 1976 and president of the Central Astoria Local Development Coalition since 1984. Under his able leadership, these two organizations have supported local Astoria businesses, preserved local jobs, and helped make Astoria the vibrant, wonderful community it is today.

Elise Wager also has a remarkable record of community involvement. In fact, until just recently, Elise was the executive director of Queens Overall Economic Development, a capacity in which she served for almost 15 years. She has now returned to Adelphi University where she is pursuing her masters in social work. I know that Queens Overall Economic Development was sad to lose her leadership, but Adelphi has truly gained a special person.